Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—That is only a general answer.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Well, generally speaking, we do not consider the amount of the lowest tenderer. We thought that the accepted tenderers were better fitted to do the work and that it was not safe to give the work to the lowest tenderers.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Then my question is, why should such people who are not fitted to get the work done be allowed to give tenders ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There might be some works, I say other works, which could be given to them. If we give this work also to that man who has already other works, he will not find it possible to do this work properly.

Suits disposed of by the Munsiffs in 1103.

63. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**— Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of suits, original and small cause, contested and ex-parte, being shown separately, disposed of by each of the existing Munsiffs during the year 1103 ?

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—A statement giving the information is placed on the Council Table.

Panchayat allotments.

64. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**— Will the Government be pleased

(a) to lay on the Table a list of items sanctioned in the budget for Panchayats which lapsed for non-execution in 1103 showing the amount sanctioned and the reason for the lapse in each case and how such amounts were utilised by the Department ;

(b) amounts of items sanctioned in the budget which were transferred to other items ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) A list furnishing the information is placed on the Council Table.

(b) Vide column 4 of the list.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In the list placed on the Table the Panchayat allotment for the 'Marana tank' lapsed. Did not the Government know when the estimate was prepared and enquiries made that the tank was under the Devaswam Department ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—There was no information on that point then.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—No enquiries were made as to the ownership of the tank when the estimates were prepared ?

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The work was proposed by the Sanitary Department and budgetted in the Panchayat allotment. We had no information at the time that the tank belonged to the Devaswam Department. When we made enquiries, we knew that the tank belonged to the Devaswam Department.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—So the estimate was prepared without knowing the ownership of the tank?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The Sanitary Department used to do the silt clearing, etc., of the tank generally.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The information supplied is that the work was not executed as the amount was utilised for other urgent works. Why were not the estimates for other urgent works not included in the list of works budgetted?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Urgent works could not be anticipated when the budget was prepared.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Could not the Government ask for a supplementary grant for doing the other urgent works not budgetted? Sir, may I know what works are more urgent than the maintenance of a road?.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Maintenance works were not found to be very urgent at the time.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Then why were they included in the list of allotments?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It might happen that the road might get out of order and then allotments would be necessary. But at that time the road was alright.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The construction of the bridge for Rs. 2,700. The information supplied is that the work was to be done by the P. W. D. It did not take it up. Why was allotment made in the Panchayat for a work to be done by the Public Works Department?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—When the allotment was made, it was thought that the Panchayat should do it. But then it was found that it required much technical skill and, as such, it was ordered that the Public Works Department should do it, and at the same time the allotment was transferred from the Panchayat to the Public Works Department.

Transfer of roads from the D. P. W. to the Panchayats and maintenance allotments.

65. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— Will the Government be pleased to state the names with distances of the several roads transferred from the D. P. W. to the jurisdiction

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